



*Tennessee Department of
Veterans Affairs*

Everything Veteran



Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs

Strategic Plan “Everything Veteran”

- Improve/Increase Employment Opportunities and Business Resources
- Establish a Veteran Education Network
- Increase Efficiency and Awareness of Claims Support
- Improve Customer Service and Awareness about State Veterans Cemeteries
- Increase Awareness and Impact of Veterans Treatment Court



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Veteran Unemployment

- Average Veteran unemployment rate in Tennessee-6.9%
- The number of Veterans receiving unemployment has decreased from 400 in January to 306 in March.
- Tennessee Department of Correction, Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation are all recruiting Veterans for open state positions.
- TDOC- has recruited 80 Veterans since January 2014.
- State partners and employers now invited to TDVA Outreaches to recruit Veterans



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Veteran Business Resources

- Michael Burcham-Nashville Entrepreneur Center
- Veteran-Has created a program to help Veteran Business Owners start or expand their business
 - We will partner to get the word out
 - Determine what additional resources needed
 - Comprehensive web-portal



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Veteran Education Network

- Governor's Veterans Education Task Force-Recommendations in June
- Student Veteran Groups increasing
- Comprehensive Web-portal
- Public Chapter 612-Tennessee Veterans Education Transition Support Act or Tennessee VETS Act
 - In State Tuition
 - As of July 1, 2014, Tennessee will be 1 of 24 states to offer in-state tuition for Veterans.
 - VETS Campus designation to motivate campuses to improve services to student Veterans



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Claims Support

- There are now 88 County Service Officers Statewide. This is an increase of 9 County Service Officers since 2011.
- All TDVA Field Offices are submitting claims digitally decreasing the claims processing time from 8 to 10 days to 2 days.
- The number of County Service Officers submitting claims digitally has increased from 18 in January to 32 in March.
- 2,082 claims have been filed digitally (TDVA/CSO's) in the first quarter of 2014



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State Veterans Cemeteries

- Since the launch of online pre-registrations in July 2013, more than 720 Veterans and spouses have pre-registered for burial.
- TDVA will make a formal announcement about the future site of the new Southwest Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery this summer
- Studies pending regarding the future site of the proposed Upper Cumberland State Veterans Cemetery



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Veteran Treatment Courts

- TDVA now working with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to increase awareness about the need for Veteran Treatment Courts
- TDVA now working with Veterans Treatment Courts in Shelby, Montgomery and Knox Counties
- TDVA has also met with judges in Anderson, Blount, Fentress, Putnam and Sevier Counties.
- TDVA will speak to judges across the state at the Tennessee Judicial Conference and at the Recovery Court Treatment Training Session on June 11
- TDVA is also working with the Department of Mental Health to establish a Veteran Suicide Prevention program at the state level.